

EIGHT FORGERS IN CUSTODY.

NOTES FOR \$500,000 SAID TO HAVE BEEN NEGOTIATED—THE POLICE STILL LOOKING FOR ABBOTT.

By the confession of William E. Valentine, now in jail in Brooklyn, the police have learned much about the operations of the band of swindlers and forgers with whom he was connected previous to his arrest. The police in this city, Brooklyn and Chicago have arrested H. W. Connors, Edward Rice, Walter B. Peters, Isaac Heidenheimer, Edwin Knowles, Rolland Smith and H. K. White as members of the syndicate of forgers, and they expect to arrest several more of them. One of the men who is being sought for is the leader in the enterprise. He is Charles H. Abbott, who had been a partner in the firm of J. H. Baker & Co., forwarding agents at No. 14 South-st. He was trusted implicitly by Mr. Baker, who has been ruined by the operations of the gang.

Abbott was able with the help of his associates to get a high rating for the firm by the commercial agencies, and then the syndicate began to issue forged notes signed with the firm name. The names of other firms were also forged to notes. Abbott's partners in the syndicate for swindling negotiated the notes. Valentine was a successful agent in getting the notes discounted. It is believed now that notes to the amount of more than \$500,000 were negotiated by the swindlers.

An office at No. 20 Pine-st. was hired and fitted up at an expense of about \$2,000, and Valentine presided there with several well-dressed burglars and forgers to keep him company. C. H. McLaughlin, who is also mentioned, was in his company. Valentine and McLaughlin took cottages at Long Branch early last summer and in one of them Valentine installed May Wintage, the young woman who recently attempted to commit suicide when she learned that he was a swindler.

The men in the Pine-st. office posed as a firm of building contractors, and made some bids to keep up the pretence that they were transacting a legitimate business. Their agents were going about the country and negotiating the forged notes. One of the agents, named Anderson, disobeyed orders and tried to discount a note in Brooklyn. The note was signed with the firm name of J. H. Baker & Co., and the man who was asked to discount the note called up Mr. Baker on the telephone. Mr. Baker said the note was a forgery, and Anderson was arrested. In the police court Abbott appeared and said he had signed the note, and Anderson was released. Even then the eyes of Mr. Baker were not opened to the swindling operations of his partner.

Two other agents of the syndicate were arrested for some trials offered in Jersey City later, and in the trials of one of the forged notes it was shown with the indorsement of J. H. Baker & Co. As there was no proof that the men had tried to go to the trial, they were made to stand trial. Valentine and McLaughlin took cottages at Long Branch early last summer and in one of them Valentine installed May Wintage, the young woman who recently attempted to commit suicide when she learned that he was a swindler.

Miss Wintage will be questioned this morning in Justice of the Peace in Brooklyn. She came from St. Mary's Hospital yesterday morning to a headquarters detective in the office of District-Attorney Backus, where she was closed with the name of the State. She did not know who had shot her. She was nearly healed. There are two charges against the girl, one of attempted suicide and one of passing away. She did not know what the checks given her by Valentine mean. Valentine is practically her accuser. She and Valentine will be called this morning, and it is certain the latter will be held for the Grand Jury. Miss Wintage may be discharged.

The courts will decide if Mr. Baker will have to pay the note signed by his missing former partner, Abbott. "I am ruined," says Mr. Baker. "Abbott has made away with all my property—I don't know how much. He has taken all the proceeds of my business. I am encumbered with suits, and the result of all my efforts and labors are outstanding in my name, or the name of my firm. I

FOR SALE:
DEMUREST
SEWING MACHINE
\$19.50 Cash.
Warranted 10 Years.
Send on Instruments and Catalogue.

\$5 DOWN. \$1 WEEKLY.
Send on Instruments and Catalogue.

A.—A.—ON WEEKLY payment—fine diamonds, watches, no trash. Call or address WATCH SUPPLY CO., 4 Madison Lane, Room 2. All goods guaranteed.

AT HOME.—Handy—handy wood and iron working—fully guaranteed, machinery bought and exchanged. GEORGE REDDY, 300 Madison Ave.

BILLIARD and pool tables, new and hand-supplied, with Bartoldi quick cushions; terms, ALFRED B. MARX & CO., 124 West 23d-st.

GENTLEMEN'S and ladies' colls and silk hats blocked while waiting. 20c; new band and binding 50c; ostrich feathers cured; box bows renovated and curled, factory; WALTER'S HAT WORKS, 263 West 30th-st.

SEWING MACHINES. New Home Company's make, \$21.50; all other kinds, \$15.00. Send for agent's commission. RAINEHART, 6, 271 3d-st., open evenings.

TIPIEWITER bargains, \$1.00; typewriters, \$2.50; guaranteed; fine rentals; \$2; cabinet cases. CONSOLIDATED TIPIEWITER EXCHANGE, 245 Broadway.

DRESSMAKING.

ARTISTIC DRESSES made from \$5 up; tailor made from \$8 up; bold and even-tinged; colors, \$10.00 down; \$10 up. 86th and 87th sts.

ARTISTIC FRENCH DRESSMAKER—serves customers at home; perfect fit; reasonable prices. RIETTE, 267 West 88th-st.

COUTURIER FRANCAISE and ladies' tailors; latest models for winter costumes, caps and wraps; gowns; gowns' gowns; modistes' gowns; coats, dresses, etc.; special styles for large ladies. Mme. ANDERSON, 223 6th-ave., formerly with Mrs. GREGG.

CLOAKMAKER and DRESSMAKER—Home or day; will make alterations on cloaks and costumes; plain garments; simple; modest; women's and men's garments; will alter, repair, renovate and curled, factory; CHAMBERS, 101 West 23d-st.

DRESSEMAKER—A thoroughly competent seamstress; makes all kinds of day, evening, skins, waist; also rendering services; children's dresses. Mrs. HOOD, 180 West 101st-st.

DRESSEMAKER MILITARY—Superior quality. JOHNSTON, 185 West 2d-st.

DRESSEMAKER—Thoroughly competent seamstress; makes all kinds of day, evening, skins, waist; also rendering services; children's dresses. Mrs. HOOD, 180 West 101st-st.

DRESSEMAKER wishes a few customers at home; perfect fit; reasonable prices. Address D., 347 East 15th-st.

DRESSEMAKER—Go out or to live in family; good fitter; ladies' or misses' children's clothes; can go out of town. 264 Lexington-ave., Doubling bell.

DRESSEMAKER—Employed in a large establishment; would like to be employed in family; moderate; salary moderate; references. DEIGNER, 124 Broadway.

DRESSEMAKER—Stylish, experienced; designs, makes; repairs; alterations; dresses; wraps; mostly engaged in family business; salary moderate; references. DEIGNER, 124 Broadway.

DRESSEMAKER—To go out by the day; designs, makes; repairs; alterations. Address M. LEE, NICOLET, 64 East 49th-st.

DRESSEMAKER—Artistically trained, beautiful designs; gives perfect fit; as to price, the person will be pleased to pay. 260 Madison Ave., 2d floor, 2d door.

DRESSEMAKER—Dressmaker; seamstress; work done by French tailor system. Address D., 227 West 42d-st.

DRESSEMAKER—A lady wishes to be a seamstress; by the day; cutting and fitting a specialty. M. J. Rogers, 224 West 20th-st.

DRESSEMAKER employed in a large establishment; would like to be employed in family business; salary moderate; references. DEIGNER, 124 Broadway.

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